

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
PLANNING BOARD
September 4, 2013
FINAL MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Board members present: Camilla Lockwood, Rose Lowry, Randy Martin, Mary Beth Ayvazian, John Kieley, Allan Pickman, and Ken Sullivan

Call to order by Lowry at 7:37 p.m.

Approval of minutes: Motion by Ayvazian to accept the minutes of 6/19/13 as written, second by Pickman, and so voted.

Putnam Road Bridge: Randy Martin addressed the board with questions about the legal status of the road now that the bridge is closed and no through traffic is allowed. His main concern was that in the future the current Class V status of the road might be reduced to Class VI. Martin explained this could have the affect of causing abutting property owners a loss of road frontage resulting in a reduction of property values. Kieley stated the intent of the Board of Selectmen has always been to keep the road as Class V, and he offered to have the BOS write a letter of confirmation to abutting property owners.

Robbins gravel pit: A letter to the Selectmen indicating Planning Board approval of pit reclamation and authorizing release of bond funds to the property owner was reviewed and signed.

Master Plan: Ideas for updating the Temple Master Plan were exchanged and sample documents from other towns were discussed. It was generally acknowledged that the town's current Master Plan is a solid document with good maps, but is missing several portions and is overdue for revision. Language and concepts from the Londonderry Master Plan were mentioned as being good examples of communicating with residents. The board discussed the process of gathering information and editing chapters. Suggestions included: adding a Vision Statement and an Energy chapter; less graphs throughout; focusing on a chapter at a time and doing the update in stages instead of all at once; accessing a charrette contest on Plan-Link; doing another survey and holding another public forum; developing new organization and style to create a more friendly document; adding photos; re-work table of contents into a chapter listing; "Temple-izing" the language. Kieley volunteered to start the process by creating an outline and then passing it along to a subcommittee. It is hoped something will be ready to present at the Harvest Festival on September 22nd.

Zoning ordinance changes: The board discussed the possibility of developing a new noise ordinance to be put before the voters. It is unknown if there would be support for this, and it was noted it could be complicated as it would involve criteria on noise limits, measurement and enforcement. Lowry suggested approaching the public with the issue at the next town forum.

Distressed properties: Board members discussed the status of distressed properties in town and specifically the Old Brick School. They agreed to set up an on-site visit with the realtor to tour the facility and see the issues for themselves, rather than relying on second-hand reports. It is hoped that future use and upkeep of empty buildings in the Village district can be encouraged.

Motion by Martin to adjourn the meeting, second by Pickman, and so voted at 9:19 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Betsy Perry